

Aspira, Inc. of New Jersey

Programs

Health Careers

1) Health Careers (College level) - (Catchment area: Statewide)

Health Careers Specialist works with college students on the Pre-Med track by providing career/educational counseling, developing Aspira Leadership Clubs in the colleges, assisting with completion of applications to graduate schools. The Health Careers Specialist sits on the Minority Admissions Committee at UMMS and maintains communications with Medical schools nationally.

There is an Annual Health Careers Conference held to give students the opportunity to interface with Hispanic Medical students and get exposure to different medical schools.

Workshops on health issues and careers are implemented throughout the year. Students in this Health Careers Program participate in summer internship programs to sharpen their academic skills.

This Program is funded through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

2) Health Careers (High school level) - (Catchment area: Essex & Essex-Superior)

Health Careers Counselors work with junior and senior level high school students to gear them toward careers in Health. Counseling, tutoring in basic skills, leadership development through Aspira clubs, and career workshops are provided. Additional services provided are college placement, college entrance exam prep courses and assistance with financial aid applications.

This Program is funded through the National Public Health Services Program.

Both Health Careers programs are mandated to direct students to careers in Medicine, Dentistry, Optometry, Podiatry, Public Health Veterinary and Graduate Schools of Health related fields. Under these grants counselors cannot steer students toward allied health careers which can serve as an entry for Hispanics to become familiarized with the Health field.

3) Business Careers (College level) - (Catchment area: Statewide)

Business Careers Specialist counsels college students and provides the necessary supports to encourage them to enter careers in Business, Engineering, and Computer Sciences.

The Business Careers Specialist provides educational and career counseling, assists with application to Graduate schools and attempts to place college graduates in jobs in the Corporate world.

An Annual Business Careers Conference is held for both college and high school students.

The Specialist works closely with an Advisory Council composed of Corporate representatives to maintain linkages between Aspira and the Corporate community.

There is the potential of club development at the college level.

This Program is funded by the Schumann Foundation.

- 4) Business Careers : (High school level) - (Clatsop area: Seaside & Medford)

Business Careers Counselors work with Aspira high school clubs by providing the following services: educational counseling; careers counseling; college placement; career workshops; educational field trips. Tutoring in Math & Science is a major component to this program. Guiding students to careers in Business, Engineering and Computer Science is the goal.

This Program is funded by the Newark Board of Education Black Grant, CBE, Inc. Black Grant, and the Schumann Foundation.

- 5) Leadership Development thru Early Intervention :  
(Junior and senior high school level - Newark)

Counselors in this Program work in either the junior high schools or senior high schools and the emphasis is using the Aspira Leadership Development Process to prevent students from dropping out of schools.

In this Program personal counseling is as important as the educational counseling. Positive Image Building is the primary goal and educational achievement is the end product. Counselors work closely with students, parents, and school personnel as part of the service delivery. Referrals are made as necessary, as well as college placements. Workshops are designed to expose students to different life experiences as well as careers.

Counselors seek creative means of motivating students. The concepts of this Program are integrated into all Aspira programs. The move to junior high school was implemented during the 1983-84 Program Year because of the alarming drop-out rate at that level in Newark schools.

Program is Funded by Title III, Robert Wey and Turrell Foundations.

- 4) Talent Search : (High school) - (Clatsop area: Pacific County)

Focus is college placement, leadership development and assisting individuals who have dropped out of high school in obtaining their GED and seek post-secondary education training.

The Talent Search staff has placed major emphasis in re-establishing Aspira Student Federations and Leadership Conferences.

Program is funded by the Department of Education TRIO Grant.

7) ASPRA Public Policy Leadership Program - (Enrollment across Statewide)

ASPRA Public Policy Leadership Program was established to afford high school students the opportunity to learn concepts in leadership through a rigorous curriculum and to begin to understand and analyze public policy and its impact on the lives of residents in their community.

The program includes seminars and a mentorship program with local policy makers. The culmination of this program is a one week internship in Washington, DC to either the legislative or government related organizations.

This program is funded through the Ford Foundation.

8) Academic Achievement Program

This program is geared to outreach to those young people who have dropped out of school and facilitate their re-entry or pursuit of a high school equivalency diploma. These students are integrated into ASPRA's leadership activities or referred to existing programs upon the completion of their GED.

This program is fund by the Newark Board of Education through the Chapter 11 Block Grant.